



DAVID SANDERS, Ph.D.
Director

County of Los Angeles DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-6602

November 30, 2005

Board of Supervisors

GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, Chair Pro Tem
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: David Sanders, Ph.D.
Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "David Sanders", is written over the printed name and title.

FINAL REPORT RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL PROVISIONS OF THE GROUP HOME CONTRACT FOR FOSTER CARE SERVICES AND OF THE FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY CONTRACT FOR FOSTER CARE

On October 19, 2004 your Board approved a motion directing DCFS, County Counsel and the Auditor-Controller to develop amendments to strengthen fiscal accountability in the foster family agency (FFA) and group home (GH) contracts and provide your Board with a final progress report by November 30, 2005.

Your Board approved Amendments Number One on September 13, 2005, and delegated authority to the Director of DCFS to execute the Amendments to the FFA contract, and to the Director of DCFS and the Chief Probation Officer to execute the Amendments to the GH contract.

Amendments were executed with each of the 73 foster family agency contracts beginning in October 2005 and concluding in November 2005. The Amendment to the GH contract was executed with every GH contractor whose contract was extended for the second contract year period from November 1, 2005 to October 31, 2006. Of the 157 GH Contractors, contract extensions and the Amendments were executed with 79 Contractors in full contractual compliance and with 68 Contractors on a conditional basis due to fiscal and/or programmatic issues. These 68 Contractors are on a 'Hold' status and will receive no additional child placements until their issues are resolved. While these issues remain unresolved, DCFS/Probation may explore replacements of the children placed with GH Contractors on 'Hold' status to fully contractually compliant GH Contractors.

Ten (10) GH contracts have not been renewed for the following reasons:

4 Closures	Bienvenidos Children's Center (0 Children) Medina Home for Children (0 Children) Hollygrove (0 Children) Child Focus Group Home (0 Children)
1 Pending Closure	Florence Crittenton, Los Angeles (29 Children)
1 Unacceptable Corrective Action Plan	Arrowhead Emancipation Program (14 Children)
1 Does not meet Probation Department requirements	Living Advantage (0 Children)
2 Have No Corporate Status	RAC Youth Center (0 Children) Cicero's Hope Group Home (4 Children)
1 Levy imposed by California State Employment Development Department	Tana Group Home (4 Children)

Six (6) of these 10 Group Homes no longer have children placed with them. DCFS/Probation are actively exploring replacement alternatives for the 51 children placed with the remaining four (4) Group Homes. Children Social Workers are aware of the deficiencies at these Group Homes, and are monitoring them regularly to oversee any immediate child safety concerns.

DCFS/Probation will continue to enforce the strengthened fiscal policies of the FFA and GH contracts as adopted by your Board on September 13, 2005, thereby ensuring the safety and well-being of the children placed in the County's care.

If you have further questions, please call me, or you staff may contact Helen Berberian at (213) 351-5530.

DS:fc

c: County Counsel
Auditor-Controller
Chief Administrative Officer
Paul Higa, Chief Probation Officer